

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

A Sad Farce

THE bitter disappointment which the shameful proceedings at the Security Council on Tuesday provoked in many parts of the world has hardly been nullified by Soviet Russia's surprising somersault fully reported under today's banner headlines. Expediency, of course, dictates this new course of action which is designed to recover "face" lost by reckless application of the veto. And doubtless Russia's action will be hailed by some impressionable Asians as a magnanimous gesture to end the deadlock on new membership which has persisted for about eight years. Many will wonder why the initiative was not taken by Britain, or the United States which has apparently suffered the greatest loss of prestige through its failure to dissuade the Nationalists from using the veto.

The fact is that only a Communist—or a Fascist—state with central direction of all subordinate nations vested in the one capital could move so swiftly. The speed with which Russia has acted in this instance suggests that Outer Mongolia was not "consulted"; but, of course, it may have been "told" that its application for membership would have to be postponed.

THE Western world—which is essentially a loose alliance of democracies—has no power, or indeed, desire to force any other state to toe its line. And in the Western view, none of its 15 candidates is any less ineligible than another. Japan, however, has sacrificed—temporarily, it is hoped—its membership for the admission of the other 12. It is regrettable that this is necessary for no other reason than that it has given the United Nations the atmosphere of a cheap bargain market.

Who or what is to blame? Partly UNO itself—but then if one is to blame UNO, it would be unfair unless its architects shared part of the blame for their lack of prescience in prescribing its original framework. Partly, also, the veto—made obnoxious by frequent misuse. And therefore partly by those original founder members who have been guilty of irresponsible application of the veto.

BUT it is puerile nonsense for Taipei to describe the package membership deal as "contrary to the provisions of the (UN) Charter." The package proposal was purely a procedural arrangement which the overwhelming majority of the present members supported to overcome a longstanding deadlock. Let Taipei be honest enough to admit that its veto decision was dictated by self-interest, by an unwillingness to allow an increase in the anti-Nationalist voting power in the Assembly. Today, more than ever it is a shrill voice in the wings of the United Nations.

Russia's action, of course, was no less objectionable. It used the veto on Tuesday because it could not get its own way. Its refusal to admit Japan—ostensibly to counterbalance the loss of Outer Mongolia—can possibly be regarded as an expression of dissatisfaction over the trend of the deadlocked Soviet-Japanese negotiations in London.

This lamentable exhibition of intolerance must, if nothing else, give new emphasis to the need for a revision of the Charter. The United Nations cannot continue much longer on its present basis without becoming the target of universal ridicule and contempt. Old memories of the League of Nations—that sterile assembly of frustrated hope and high but abortive ideals—should impress on the world's rulers today that the UN must be something different and infinitely better if posterity is to acclaim it as a success.

A Day Of Dramatic Surprises And Decisions
UN ADMITS 16 NEW MEMBERSRussian
Package Deal
Approved

New York, Dec. 14.

The General Assembly tonight ratified the recommendation of the Security Council for the admission of 16 nations to membership of the United Nations Organisation. The 16 nations were elected individually by large majorities.

In a dramatic move earlier today the Soviet Union reconvened the Security Council and proposed a mass election which excluded Outer Mongolia and Japan from the original 18-nation "package deal"—the deal torpedoed by Nationalist China and Russia applying the veto.

France-Press reports that Mr Arkady Sobolev, the Soviet representative, not only excluded Japan from the original list, but later vetoed the Japanese candidacy when it was put forward by the American delegate, Mr Henry Cabot Lodge.

The Council approved the Soviet resolution by eight affirmative votes and three abstentions—the United States, Nationalist China and Belgium.

The Soviet delegate said he would have been prepared to support Japan's candidacy if the Council had supported the membership bid of Outer Mongolia. As soon as the Soviet proposal was approved, the United States submitted a resolution, asking the General Assembly to recommend favourable Security Council action on Japan at the Assembly's 1956 session.

The vote on Japan was 10 to 1. The sole opposition came from the Soviet Union which, as one of the five permanent Council members, has the veto right.

Before the final vote on the overall 16 nation package deal, the Council took separate votes on each of the candidates proposed by the Soviet Union.

The votes were: Albania—elected by eight affirmative votes and three abstentions—

the United States, Nationalist China, and Belgium.

Jordan, Ireland, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Finland, Ceylon, Nepal, Libya, Cambodia and Laos—all elected unanimously.

Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria—all elected by nine affirmative votes, and two abstentions—the United States and Nationalist China.

Spain was elected by 10 affirmative votes and one abstention—Belgium.

The Security Council adjourned until 3 p.m., on Thursday on the suggestion of the Soviet delegate. He declared he needed instructions from his government on the American proposal to ask the General Assembly to recommend favourable Security Council action on Japan at the 1956 session.

"MEMORABLE DAY"

Sir Pierson Dixon of Britain told the Security Council that Britain was naturally very distressed that it has not proved possible for Japan to be admitted at this time.

"It has for long been our wish and our policy to secure her admission," he said. Britain would support the United States resolution to admit Japan at the next session and earnestly hoped that Japan would "join us at the next session."

On the other hand nobody could be better pleased than the delegation of the United Kingdom that at long last so many countries have been recommended for admission. This is in itself an achievement and I think we may say it has been a memorable day," he said.

Mr Sobolev said the fact that 16 countries had been recommended for admission argued that a great step forward had been made towards a full solution of the problem and the foundations on which international co-operation rested in the United Nations would be widened.

It was a "historic measure" broadening the scope of the United Nations to universality. "The decision of the Security Council will not only improve the climate in the United Nations but will help us to solve many important problems whose solution is ripe and on which decisions are near," the Soviet delegate said.

CEYLON WELCOMED

Sir Leslie Munro, the Security Council President, speaking as the New Zealand delegate, welcomed the admission of 16 countries, particularly Ceylon which is a member of the British Commonwealth and which "is such a credit to New Zealand." He regretted the omission of New Zealand's Pacific neighbour, Japan, which he said was a

Peace Prospects

Outlook

Gloom &
Some Wary
Optimism

Washington, Dec. 14.

Congressional leaders who attended a White House briefing on foreign problems viewed the chances of peace today with outlooks ranging from gloom to wary optimism.

The leaders were filled in on the international situation yesterday by President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Some told newsmen later they thought the threat of war had diminished. Others saw little change in the last few months, and at least one said, "We are at our greatest danger in history."

DISAPPOINTED

Some conferees, declining to be quoted, said they received no indication at the briefing of an immediate threat of war. But they said Mr Eisenhower expressed disappointment over the failure of the recent Big Four Foreign Ministers' conference at Geneva.

House Republican leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr., said, "Based on the reports from Mr Dulles, I believe we are further away from war today than we were a year ago. But we must keep our armaments up. There is nothing in the situation to warrant a cut in our defences."

But chairman Clarence Cannon of the House Appropriations Committee declared, among other things, that "We are at our greatest danger in history."

He said, "We must not relax in our buildup of strength, particularly in the Air branch."

"MIGHTY BAD"

Speaker Sam Rayburn said world conditions are "mighty bad" and Russia is "making greater efforts than ever before to spread their gospel around the world."

Chairman James P. Richards of the House Foreign Affairs Committee said, "We are going to have a lot of little wars around us for a long time to come."

Chairman Walter F. George of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said, "The international picture is not bright—but neither is it hopeless."—United Press.

Stevenson's Decision

Chicago, Dec. 14. Mr Adlai Stevenson, avowed candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, announced today that he would enter the California, Florida, Pennsylvania and Illinois primaries in addition to the Minnesota primary. —United Press.

Dr Wohlgemuth Missing

Berlin, Dec. 14.

Dr Wolfgang Wohlgemuth, a gynaecologist, who went over to East Berlin with Dr Otto John in July, 1954, has been missing from his East Berlin residence for two days, it was learned tonight. Dr John, former West German security chief, fled back to West Germany on Monday.

Dr Wohlgemuth, whose apartment in East Berlin's famous Stalin-Allee, has been under police surveillance, was no longer answering telephone calls. He has indicated several times that he desired to return to West Berlin. Before he crossed over to the Soviet sector last year, he had a medical practice in both East and West Berlin. Legal proceedings have been instituted against Dr Wohlgemuth in West Germany. —France-Press.

IZVESTIA TAKES MACMILLAN TO TASK

Moscow, Dec. 14.

The Soviet Government newspaper, Izvestia today accused Mr Harold Macmillan, British Foreign Secretary, of making threats and distortions. The newspaper said his language during Monday's debate on the Middle East in the House of Commons was "intolerable." "The state," it said, "of the British Foreign Minister is a mixture of threats against the peoples of the Middle East, a distortion of the position of the Soviet Union and of attempts to justify his own position which does not enjoy popularity." It warned that Mr Macmillan's statements "about the Middle East, with great accuracy, mirror on them the policy of the Soviet Union." "The state," it said, "of the British Foreign Minister is a mixture of threats against the peoples of the Middle East, a distortion of the position of the Soviet Union and of attempts to justify his own position which does not enjoy popularity." It warned that Mr Macmillan's statements "about the Middle East, with great accuracy, mirror on them the policy of the Soviet Union." —United Press.

GAITSKELL WINS IN A CANTER

Morrison, Placed Third
Resigns His Position

London, Dec. 14.

Mr Hugh Gaitskell, 49, right-wing Socialist, was tonight elected the new leader of the British Labour Party—marked as Prime Minister if Labour returns to power.

The victory crowning a meteoric rise wrote an unhappy end to the long career of one of Labour's greatest figures—Mr Herbert Morrison, 67, the Party's deputy leader for the past 10 years and a former Foreign Secretary.

Mr Gaitskell, with 157 votes, emerged at the top of the secret poll of the Party's 275 members to find a successor to Mr Clement Attlee.

The veteran Morrison was almost eclipsed with only 40 votes. Mr Aneurin Bevan, leader of the left-wing section of the Party was placed second with 70 votes.

Staggered By The Result

Mr Gaitskell's success had been confidently predicted, but politicians had expected Mr Morrison to be his closest rival.

Later Mr Morrison announced his resignation as deputy leader of the Party.

He handed over the chair to Mr Gaitskell, then left the meeting brokenly with a friend on either side.

Some parliamentarians believed Mr Gaitskell may try to impose unity on the British Labour movement even if it means ruthless knocking of heads together to do it.

£2,000 SALARY

Mr Gaitskell, economist and intellectual Socialist with an upper middle class family background, now automatically becomes leader of the opposition in the House of Commons. This carries with a salary of £2,000 a year.

He has been in parliament for only 10 years. His rapid leap to the top is due to two factors—his brilliant talents as a politician and economist and the fear of the Party moderates that a right-winging Aneurin Bevan would seize power. The party wanted as its leader a younger man able to stand up to the Welsh firebrand.

Mr Morrison's tragedy is that the chance of realising his supreme ambition came too late in life when his colleagues considered him too old to match Bevan.

It could, if the unruly Left sees the warning light, result in a fairly quick resurgence of Labour's power and influence, with Mr Bevan's adherents playing their part in an all-out effort to demonstrate Labour's fitness to govern.

Or it could hasten the complete defection of the Left-wing section and bring into being what has often been foreshadowed in recent years—a separate left-wing Labour movement.—Reuter.

NEW YEAR VOTE

The election of Mr Morrison's successor as deputy leader will not be held till after parliament's Christmas vacation.

Mr Gaitskell at a news conference tonight paid tribute to his defeated rival.

"Mr Morrison," he said, "is a man who has served the Labour Party and his country in the most devoted manner for well over 30 years. He has been in many ways the main architect of the Party's policy in home affairs. There is no use denying we shall miss his wise counsel and great experience."

The new leader of the six million strong Labour movement added: "One cannot find oneself in a position such as mine without feeling humility both because of the immensity of the job and also because of the people who have held this office, in particular Mr Attlee."

Red Underground
Network Cracked

Saigon, Dec. 14.

Officials announced tonight that they had cracked a Communist Vietminh underground network operating in South Vietnam.

The crackdown came on Tuesday when about 30 Red agents, including the local Communist Party chief, were arrested, officials said. They said the police uncovered a cache of arms, munitions and material for making mines hidden in a cellar in the centre of Hanoi.

Local authoritative sources said the network spread out all over South Vietnam.—United Press.

ATTLEE SILENT

Mr Attlee, now created an earl, was told at the country cottage where he lives of Mr Gaitskell's succession to the post he held for 20 years.

With typical reserve the ex-Prime Minister said: "I do not think I shall be making any comment or statement."

Mr Gaitskell faces a formidable task. He has to try to weld together for future victory a Party still torn and divided and full of mutual recriminations after its defeat in the May general election.

His job is made doubly difficult because he starts without any of the more obvious advantages of his predecessor, Mr Clement Attlee, a "middle-of-the-road man" with a genius for compromise.

UNION BACKING

Mr Gaitskell is an ultra right-winger. He would not otherwise have won the backing of the parliament of the five million trade unionists who represent the bulk of the Party's national strength.

The followers of Mr Aneurin Bevan, one of the two leaders in the leadership contest, regard him as their champion. Inevitably, enough Unionist states, they usually came to the aid of the leader of the moderate wing.

Winter
Bursts In
On Europe

Death & Disaster

London, Dec. 14.

The tightening grip of winter brought disaster and death to Europe and the surrounding seas today. At least 15 persons died in isolated mishaps. One vessel went down, another broke up on shoals and several more were in extreme danger.

The worst winter fog in 10 years blanketed Denmark and caused more than 50 car accidents. Six persons were killed in highway crash-ups.

A freezing rain fell over most of Northern Germany, turning the highways into a network of ice. At least four persons died in shunting car accidents.

At Sodkamo, Finland, a truck broke through the ice and its two occupants drowned in the frigid waters. Another truck, whose driver did not see the hole, followed and two more died.

FROZEN TO DEATH

An old man was found dead in Sweden, frozen by the west December cold to hit the country in 20 years.

In Sweden and Norway, power lines snapped and major water mains burst in the almost-Arctic cold wave. In the North, temperatures ranged as low as 40 degrees below zero.

Fishing fleets of both countries were stranded by rapidly growing ice jams and transport systems in some areas were at a standstill.

AVALANCHE ALERT

In the Austrian Alps, police and rescue teams were put on a 24-hour "avalanche alert" as rising and falling temperatures made the mountains roar from falling snow and rock. (Contd. on back page, Col. 2.)

JEWEL LOOT RECOVERED:
TWO MEN ARRESTED

Johannesburg, Dec. 14.

Ninety-eight per cent of the 220,000 sterling jewel loot from the Oppenheimer collection was recovered and two men were arrested today as police swooped down on a select Johannesburg hotel highway.

The haul, including some of the world's most precious diamonds, was made ten days ago at the home of Mr Harry Oppenheimer. Member of Parliament and diamond and mining magnate. It led to one of the greatest manhunts in South Africa's history with many international crime detection experts called in.

Some smaller pieces of the loot were found embedded in a cake of soap in the bathroom. The Oppenheimers were excited when informed of the recovery of their jewels and immediately went to the hotel to identify the missing pieces.—United Press.

Hasselblad 1000 F
A Masterpiece of Versatility

Thanks to the improved production assembly methods, the new Hasselblad 1000 F can be offered at a lower price.

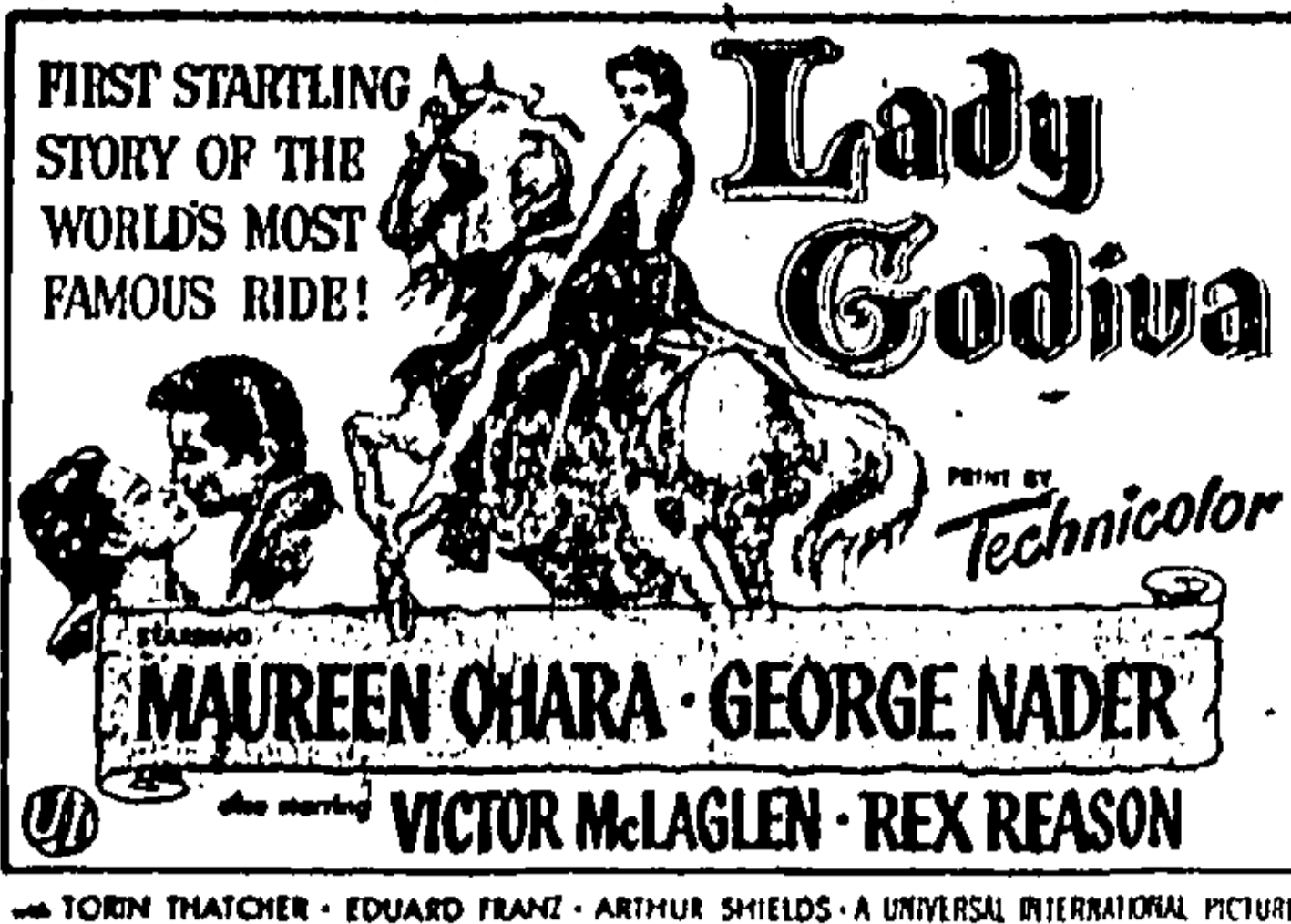
MADE IN SWEDEN

PICTURED THAT STAND OUT ARE FLASHED WITH

SYLVANIA
FLASHLIGHT

KING'S PRINCESS

COMMENCING TO-DAY



ROXY & BROADWAY

GRAND OPENING TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Joan Crawford At Her BEST

Since Her Academy Award of "MILDRED PIERCE"

"OTHER WOMEN'S MEN... ARE THE MOST EXCITING..."



Barry Sullivan - Betsy Palmer - John Ireland

Lily Marlow

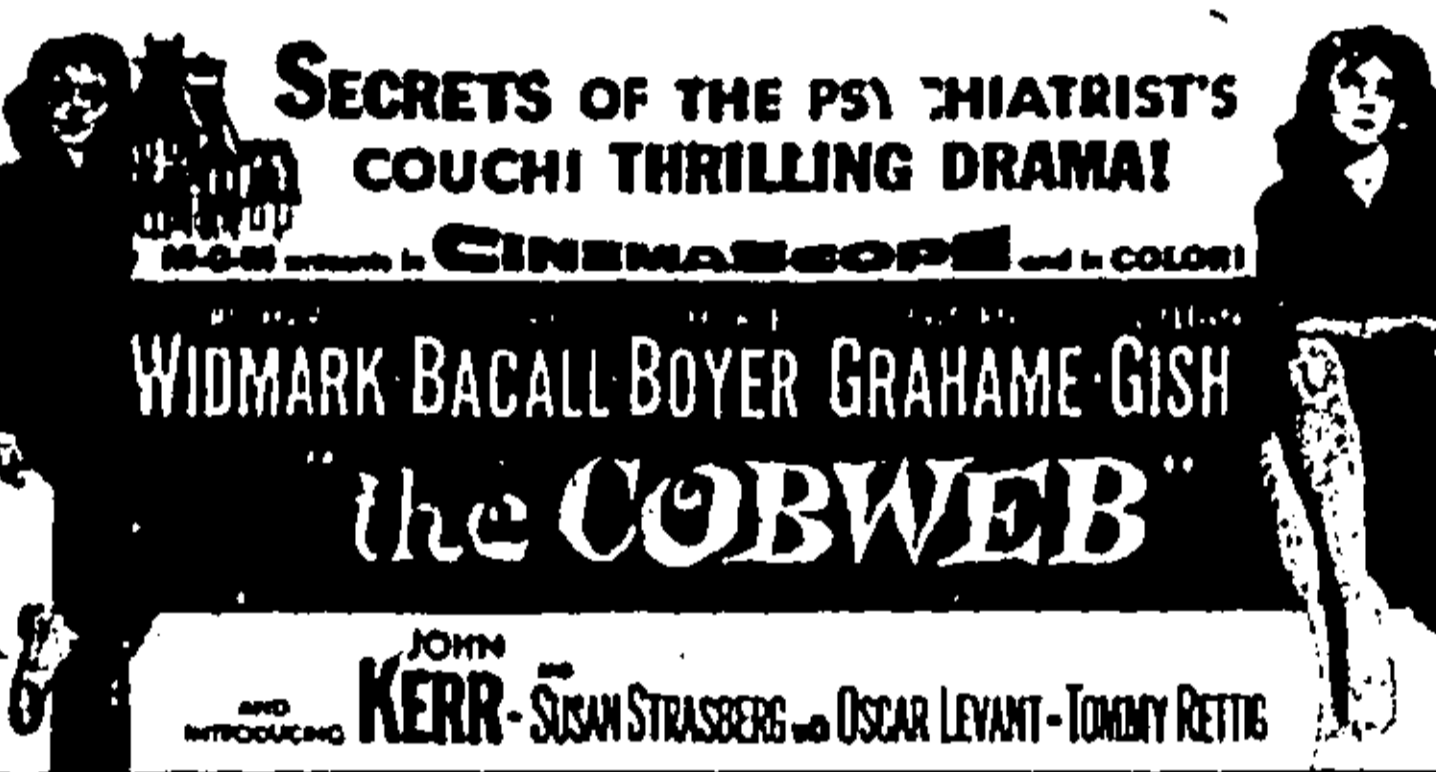
HOOVER: LIBERTY

CAUSEWAY BAY TEL 72371 KOWLOON TEL 50333

LAST TWO DAYS

AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 and 9.40 P.M.

(Please note the change of time)



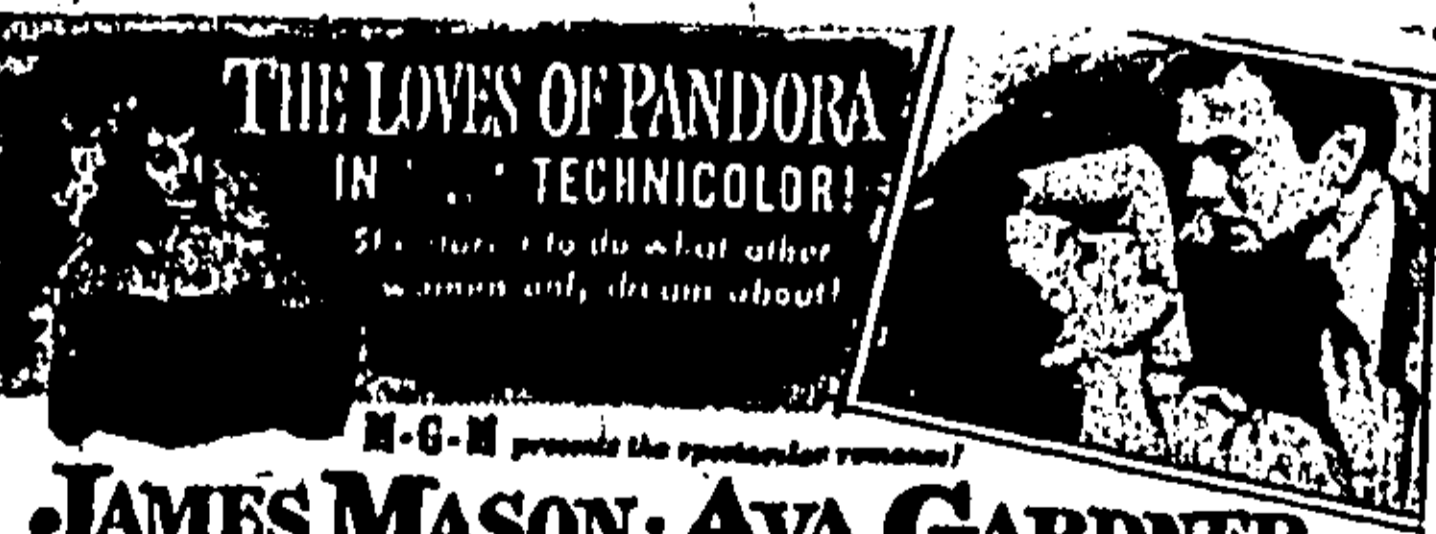
KERR - SUSAN STRASSBERG - OSCAR LEVANT - TOMMY RITTS

EMPIRE

FINAL TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

The MOST BEAUTIFUL PICTURE played by the MOST BEAUTIFUL CREATURE at her MOST BEAUTIFUL AGE!



JAMES MASON - AVA GARDNER

Pandora and The Flying Dutchman

COMMENCING TO-MORROW

A CHINESE MANDARIN PICTURE

"BLOOD WILL TELL"

in Eastman Color

Starring: LI LI-HWA • WONG YIN

Greek Appeal To UN On Situation In Cyprus

A KING AND HIS FATHER



King Baudouin of Belgium (left) and his father, ex-King Leopold, pictured at the Villa near Grasse, on the Cote d'Azur, in the South of France, where they were spending a holiday. — Central Press Photo.

Veto Could Lead To Demand For Chiang's Eviction

Tokyo, Dec. 14.

Nationalist China's United Nations veto today will win no new friends or enemies in Asia for President Chiang Kai-shek's Government, diplomatic observers believe.

But the Nationalist action may increase demands from Asia's influential neutral governments, led by India, for eviction of Chiang's delegation from the UN, they added.

The East-West battlelines and the wide neutral buffer separating them—were drawn long ago in the Far East. The Nationalist vote which defeated an 18-nation membership plan probably will sway few if any Asian countries from their present stands for or against the Nationalist Generalissimo.

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Wrote Off Chiang

The big question mark diplomats will be watching is the powerful neutral bloc—including India, Indonesia and Burma. The neutrals wrote off Chiang's regime on Formosa years ago and recognized Peking, while refusing to join either East or West power alliances. The Nationalist vote against Outer Mongolian membership, which led Russia to veto 13 pro-Western nations, may increase demands in neutral capitals that Peking be accepted as the legitimate Chinese government.

The neutral governments generally consider Chiang an appendage of the United States. They may now say that Chiang has proved himself unworthy of international recognition by wrecking the package membership deal which would have been accepted if the Nationalists had withheld their veto.

Applauded

Chiang's strongest supporters in the Far East—South Korea and the Philippines—applauded the Nationalist veto as they were expected to do. Mr. Francisco Delgado, chairman of the Philippines Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said in Manila that the Nationalist action placed Chiang's diplomatic position in "no real danger." He said Chiang's move was justified from the standpoint of

protecting Nationalist China's interests.

"After all," he said, "the United States is the majority of Nationalist China in the UN and elsewhere. I don't think the United States will abandon Nationalist China."

Delgado said the veto "as far as consistency is concerned should win respect" for Chiang's Government.

In Seoul a South Korean Government spokesman told United Press the Nationalist decision was "very good" because the package membership plan represented "apostasy to communism."

The Seoul government, strongly anti-Communist, said in an official statement that "any package deal involving the membership of Outer Mongolia is immoral and contrary to the high purposes and spirit of the United Nations." — United Press.

Copper Workers On Strike

Santiago, Dec. 14.

As scheduled copper workers at the three big American-owned mines in Chile struck work today. The strike involved 12,000 men and this would mean a daily production loss of 1,200 metric tons of copper. — China Mail Special.

London, Dec. 14.

Libyan Prime Minister Mustafa ben Halim arrived here today for a three-day private visit. A Libyan Legation spokesman said Halim, who flew here from Tripoli, has scheduled no official talks during his stay. — United Press.

United Nations, Dec. 14.

Greece appealed today to the United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold, to "mobilize" the political and moral force of the world organization to avert the "worst consequences" of the situation in Cyprus.

The Greek Ambassador, Mr. Christian Palamas, in a formal letter to Mr. Hammarskjold, declared that the Cyprus situation is "constantly deteriorating" under a British "policy of repression and increasing violence."

"It is the British authorities who are waging war against the Cypriot people," said Mr. Palamas. "The situation in Cyprus has assumed the aspect of an acute crisis, heavy with forebodings because of its possible repercussions in both the national and international fields. The worst consequences are to be feared."

Mr. Palamas said Greece continued to seek to avert the danger and bring about an agreement of moderation and understanding, but that these efforts would be doubtful without the assurance of UN interest.

One Way Out

"In the face of a constantly deteriorating situation," he told Mr. Hammarskjold, "all the political and moral forces embodied in this organization should be mobilized and placed at the disposal of the efforts to secure justice and peace."

Mr. Palamas said he had no doubt Mr. Hammarskjold would "not fail to contribute, within the limits of possibility, to this constructive effort."

The Greek Ambassador submitted with this letter a detailed memorandum on the Cyprus situation.

The report charged Britain with primary responsibility for events on the Mediterranean island and said: "There is but one way out of this vicious circle of violence... this is the restoration of freedom and law based upon the respect of political, civil and human rights."

Exasperated People

Mr. Palamas said the decision of the Assembly this year not to put the Cyprus case on its agenda had "disastrous effects on the evolution of the situation... it is an illusion to believe that by not including a question in the agenda of the Assembly, this question is no longer a problem for the United Nations."

He said the refusal of the UN "to take a positive stand has exasperated the people of Cyprus and seems to justify those invoking action as the only way of resistance and liberation left to them."

The detailed report attached to the letter accused the British of "colonial totalitarianism" on Cyprus.

It reviewed a number of recent incidents on Cyprus. It charged the British with using the schools to turn "education into a method of altering the national feelings of the people of Cyprus and reducing it into a tool for the preservation of the colonial regime."

Concentration Camp

The report said the emergency powers order imposed "degrading" penalties on Cypriots and thus, "in the second half of the 20th Century, the practice of whipping is brought back from the Middle Ages."

"Cyprus today is an island of barricades and barbed wire," said the report, "of troops on a war footing, of oppressed people clamouring for freedom, of uncertainty and sadness. A huge concentration camp whose very existence is irreconcilable with the liberal traditions of the British nation." — United Press.

NO TEMPTING

Cairo, Dec. 14.

Girls caught "instigating" passers-by to immorality either by word or gesture will be liable to prison terms of seven days, for the first offence, and six months, for the second, under a new provision of the Egyptian penal code. Subsequent offences will be more severely punished. Licensed prostitution was banned in Egypt five years ago—China Mail Special.

ISRAELI ATTACK ON SYRIA

US Deplores Loss Of Life

Washington, Dec. 14.

The State Department said today it "deplores" the loss of life suffered during the Israeli attack on Syria but that the ultimate American position will be reached only after the United Nations armistice commission on the spot makes its report.

The statement was made by Department press spokesman Lincoln White at a news conference.

Mr. White was asked whether, in view of a British Government statement rebuking Israel for the attack, the State Department had any comment of its own. Mr. White said: "The United States, of course, deplores the loss of life in this as in previous border incidents."

Making Report

"The facts up to this point are that the Israeli-Syrian mixed commission will in due course be making its report to the United Nations."

"Syria has requested that a meeting of the United Nations Security Council be called on this matter."

"The United States, as a member of the Security Council, will presumably receive a copy of the report of the mixed armistice commission. It would, therefore, be premature for me to make any comment on what the ultimate United States position might be." — United Press.

MORE JAPS GO HOME

London, Dec. 14.

New China News Agency reported that 279 Japanese nationals and their families left the Hainan new harbour for home today aboard the Koan Maru.

"Four Japanese war criminals, handed over to the Chinese Government by the government of the Mongolian Peoples Republic, left for home by the same ship," the Peking radio said.

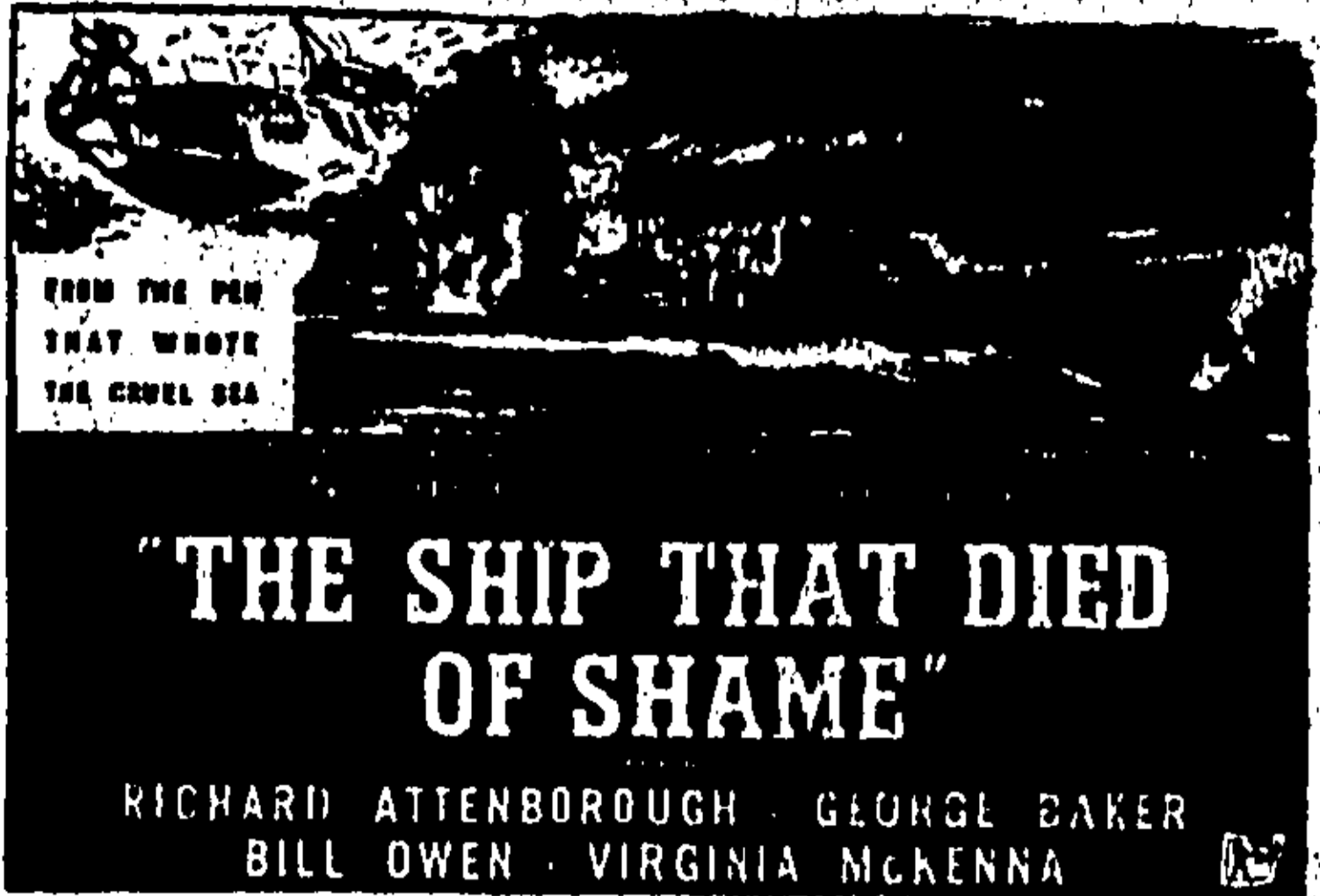
"The Chinese Government authorities concerned had entrusted the Red Cross Society of China to assist in sending them back to Japan." — United Press.

Pairs, Dec. 14.

The second Soviet ship to leave for the Antarctic, the "Lena," left Kalingrad today. Few news agency announced tonight. This ship is to take part in the scientific work around the South Pole in connection with the International Geophysical Year. The ship was built in the USSR and is the largest of its kind in the world.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY

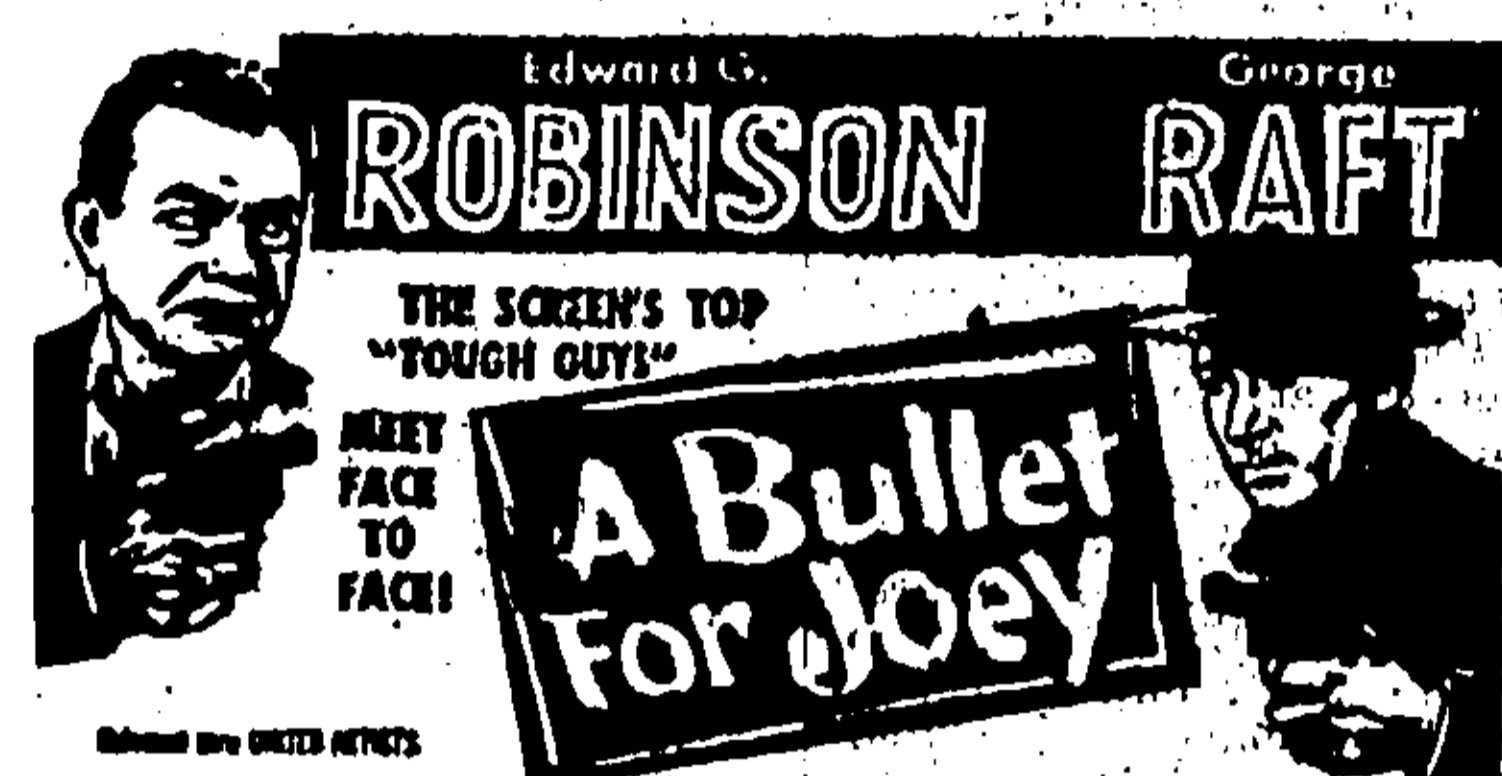


Richard Attenborough - George Baker - Bill Owen - Virginia McKenna

NEW YORK - GREAT WORLD

COMMENCING TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



George Robinson

A Paramount Picture

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Not Science Fiction, But Challenging Fact: NEW EVEREST ADVENTURE

Edwards Air Force Base in the Mojave Desert. HERE in the Mojave Desert men are invading the last frontier. The sound barrier has been shattered, but the heat barrier, or thermal barrier, 100,000ft. above the earth, is a thick which is yielding grudgingly to the thrusts of the supersonic jet and rocket planes.

I have been talking to the men who have penetrated the lonely upper sky and have been inspecting their strange dart-nosed needle-shaped machines.

No other British correspondent has visited this unique test base known to airmen as Muroc, after the desert dry lake, which is its heart. In the words of the commanding general, J. S. Holtzman, the lake is: "Sixty-five miles of dead-level, rock-hard, landing space."

The dry lake is God's gift to the base, and with-

out it the space flyers would be greatly handicapped.

The officers and men claim Muroc is the most advanced test centre in the world. Certainly it is the most carefully guarded, restricted, and remote in the United States.

The precautions are much more stringent than those which shelter the headquarters of the Strategic Air Command which I visited a few months ago, and copies of these dispatches have been forwarded to Baltimore and Washington in case I give aid and comfort to the "enemy."

This is the base from which men "punch holes in the sky," and it has a special appeal to the British because chief of the flight-test operations division, the No. 1 test pilot, is Lieut.-Colonel Frank Everest, a direct descendant of Sir George Everest, after whom

THEY PUNCH HOLES IN THE SKY!

THE LAST FRONTIER IS YIELDING TO COLONEL 'PETE' AND HIS FELLOW PILOTS

the great mountain was named.

Sir George climbed high, but this young American, 36 years old, 5ft. 7in. tall, has soared three times as high as Everest's 29,141ft.

I came here specifically to see Colonel Everest, flying from New York and driving 100 miles through the desert from Beverly Hills.

Despite clearance from the Pentagon and backing from the British Embassy, I was questioned by Air police at the main gate and directed to the credentials hut.

More relaxed

THERE was none of this at S.A.C. In the hut I saw a sign: "For fraud or false statements, \$10,000 fine or five years in jail." I made no false statements and was told I would be escorted by Lieut.-Colonel Lloyd Garland.

Garland appeared after about ten minutes. He is a tall, soft-spoken Southerner, an enthusiastic booster for Muroc.

He asked what I wanted to do first, and I said: "See Colonel Everest." Garland said: "The Colonel's getting internationally famous. I'm not so sure he likes it." We drove over the rough roads to Everest's office—a thin line of shacks.

Garland said: "We are moving out of these huts into real quarters soon."

Over the entrance were the words: "Through these portals pass the oldest and boldest pilots in the world."

The place was cluttered with desks, and "Pete" Everest, pointer in hand before a chart, was demonstrating something on other to a group of technicians and pilots.

He looked very young, more like a pupil than a teacher. He is good-looking, very bronzed, strong-jawed, and has the eyes of an airman.

He came out and said: "I'm tired—can you come back later?"

Colonel Garland said: "He has a lot on his mind."

I went back later after touring the base and found Everest more relaxed. He sat at his desk in his "private office"—another officer and a secretary share the room, which is like an undergraduate's, with cartoons, calendars, notices, and photographs of aeroplanes.

'Mine Is Not A Respectable Profession....' Well! Well!

SELF-ANALYSIS BY CECIL BEATON

ONCE upon a time Cecil Walter Hardy Beaton, 50-year-old son of a timber magnate, photographer extraordinary of the twentieth century, said, replying to a quiz about his likes and dislikes, that his hero was Cecil Beaton.

Now it almost seems that he is going back on this choice. In his new book about his experiences as a lecturer in wildest America, IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 16s.), there is a faint, very faint, rumour that Mr B. is no longer so mad about Mr B. as he used to be....

"It's time to realise now," he says, "that (mine) is the sort of success that should belong to a much younger age bracket."

And then, look at the advice he gives to a man whose son wants to be a photographer.

"The photographer is of a lower social status than the writer," he says. "... An intruder, the man in the macintosh who shouldn't be there, the man outside looking in. It's not a respectable profession."

★ ★ ★

Well, well, well. Apart from the fact that I never thought I live to see the day when Cecil Beaton would describe himself as "the man in the macintosh who shouldn't be there," this recalls me. What an admission.

That clever Mr B., privileged to act as a camera on so many snob occasions, secretly threatened by a feeling of inadequacy?

My, my. For in this fascinating book Mr B. confesses that it was this feeling of inadequacy that drove him to accept the invitation to lecture to the women's clubs in the U.S., that made him take lessons in speech training so that he might acquit himself with honour, that made him like another Gandhi, reveal to thousands of "lucky" American women the secrets of his royal sittings.

"The stories about photographing the Queen at various stages of her life," he says, "were naturally the most successful parts of the lecture," he says.

He also gives us some electrifying peeps behind the scenes after the Coronation:—

"The Queen Mother, her long train held by four pages in scarlet, was in rollicking spirits as she sailed towards me, and no wonder, for peeping from under the purple velvet train appeared the ruffled heads of little Prince Charles and Princess Anne."

★ ★ ★

"A Court official, who looked as though he had just stepped out of Alice in Wonderland, came in searching for something. 'Oh, there they are,' he mumbled, as he dashed out with the orb and sceptre."

★ ★ ★

"The Queen heaved a sigh, and made an exaggerated gesture such as actors use when coming off stage after playing a strenuous scene. 'Yes, the crown is heavy—after three hours. Yes, we are tired but still has to be done!'"

All of which is charming, isn't it? Brilliantly readable, as good journalistically as anything that has been written about what goes on behind the throne. But don't let us kid ourselves about a feeling of inadequacy as Beaton told those anecdotes. He was paid nearly \$1,000 per lecture.

Nancy Spain

DON IDDON'S DIARY

He snapped out an order to get Los Angeles on the phone and said: "Go ahead, shoot."

I went into the talk slowly and pointed out he was probably the fastest man in the world and the world, therefore, wanted a close-up.

Everest lit a cigarette and began to speak. "No, I don't feel worried or scared up there. I never get claustrophobia, and I never get air sick."

"You know how the thing's done. I go up in the mother ship and the Bell II is attached to the belly."

"I get into the cockpit of the rocket ship after a bit and they drop me at about 30,000. Then I climb and let her go."

"How fast," I asked.

'Damned hot'

EVEREST said: "I can't give you exact figures. Pretty fast. It's not speed that is the problem. I can see us doing 3,000 miles an hour, not yet, of course, if the aircraft stand up."

"The heat barrier, or thermal barrier, is a misnomer, in my opinion, although it has caught on."

"Certainly it's damned hot, though we have cooling systems, but the pilot is not so much worried about melting himself as the plane melting."

"What do I think of? Well, I'm so busy flying the thing and making notes and watching the instruments I don't let my mind wander. It would be too bad if I did."

"These rockets are harder to fly than ordinary planes. Once we've done our spurt—and it lasts only five or six minutes—we are on our own and have to glide to a landing without power."

When Everest says "we" he means "I." There is only room for one man in the tiny, cramped craft.

"I feel all right before, during, and after. I don't worry. I sleep well. It's flying, futuristic flying, but still flying. I'm not a fancy talker."

'Special' sort

"WHAT about my wife? She packs my lunch every day. Test pilots' wives are a special sort. They have to be. I don't think they worry overmuch. [Everest has three young children, and the family live on the base.]

"We expect to get the Bell II really cooking in a little while, and then we will get data that's overdue—stuff the manufacturers need."

Everest suddenly turned to me and said: "Where did you get your carnation?"

I said: "In Hollywood," and Everest winked and began to talk again.

"I haven't many hobbies—hunting and fishing. And flying—that's my real hobby."

"We have a bit of social life here at Edwards—dances and the mess."

"I hope to go to England, maybe in January, and fly some of the R.A.F. planes."

I said: "I think we need more money allocated by the Government."

Everest said: "No politics. Come on. I'll show you around."

We went out where the planes were lined up—the big mother ships and the rocket and jet planes. The base was noisy as the planes cut corners of destructive sound. My eardrums ached.

The special Bell II wasn't there, but I had caught a glimpse of it earlier in one of the hangars until an armed company guard—there are 24 aircraft manufacturers here as well as the three Services—shooed Colonel Garland and myself away.



At Edwards Air Base a pilot waits in his high-altitude emergency suit.

one who knows me knows that would look phoney. We will just pose against the plane."

Everest made the first powered flight in the Bell X II the other day. He is the only man alive to have flown the X II. He was dropped loose from a mother plane and flew under rocket power for six minutes. The total flight, including the glide return, lasted 30 minutes. Six minutes to fly close to 100,000ft. high, to invade the last territory! He said: "It was purely exploratory."

Secret metals

YOU should understand that this base is a vast laboratory and the planes are not prototypes of fighters. These are experimental planes—scientists' needles into the upper sky.

The latest, the Bell X II, took nine years to build. Its pair of rocket tubes give it 15,000lb. of thrust, and it has a throttle so that Everest can control the amount of fuel and oxidiser fed into each chamber.

Its windshield is heat and infra-red ray resistant. At 2,000 miles an hour ordinary glass would melt, and at 100,000ft.

without special glass shields the pilot would die.

The rocket ship is built of many metals. The frail-looking wings are of heat-resistant stainless steel, the body of nickel-based alloy, containing copper, manganese, aluminum, and silicon. Also secret metals.

What is Pete Everest himself made of?

He says: "Ordinary flesh and blood like everybody else."

Some people say Everest is made of finer steel even than that of his rocket planes.

(COPYRIGHT)

TOMORROW:
What is the heat barrier?

BEYOND GRANADA—EUROPE'S BIGGEST GYPSY TOWN

By John Culmer

Madrid. THE town of Guadix, 30 miles east of Granada, in the "deep south" of Spain, is not a tourist resort, and the few guide books that mention it content themselves with naming its 18th century cathedral as the only place likely to interest the visitor.

The guide books, however, are wrong, for hidden behind Guadix is the largest gipsy town in Europe, with a swarming population estimated at more than 6,000.

This was why I decided to push on beyond Granada, through the beetfields and the

sugar-cane plantations, until I came to the hot, dusty, sun-blasted site which the gipsies call home.

If you inquire in Guadix you will probably be told that no one in the town has ever heard of the Barrio de Santiago—gipsy quarter—and I found that even if you have a general idea of the direction in which it lies you can easily miss your way.

To reach it you must go to the back of the town where the road goes up and white-washed, one-floor houses hide a narrow, rocky lane that winds in and out among them and gradually starts to climb.

Soon there are no more houses but white-washed cave fronts with, in front of them, tiny courtyards the size of the "areas" of old London houses, brightened with pots of roses and geraniums and occasional trellised vines. These are the "luxury" caves of the Barrio de Santiago, but the lane winds past them and branches off into a network of tiny alleys to the top of a low hill where it dips suddenly—and there, spread out below, is a vast amphitheatre.

A hot wind

I WALKED down a few steps, and I was standing in the centre of the biggest gipsy cave town and the largest troglodyte population in the world.

A hot wind, sucked up the dust and sent rapidly moving spirals of grit and sand eddying across the vast arena.

Tawny-clad girls with coils of black, snake-like hair, and lithe young men in ragged trousers and shirts, leaped across the rocks and in and out among the caves with the speed and grace of panthers.

And although I had the impression that this was a deserted "city" I was conscious that I was being watched by invisible eyes from every one of the hundreds of caves rising in tier after tier around me.

Some of the caves were hollowed from single, conical-shaped mounds of earth, but

the majority had been scooped out underground, with only the cowl of a chimney above the soil. Others, with a single narrow door and a small slit of a window at either side, looked, in the distance, like the evil faces of pagan gods.

With antlike industry the gipsies have burrowed and tunneled in the ground and in the hills forming the rim of the bowl-shaped arena, utilising every foot of space to make room for dwellings. And, if you climb off the rocky path and stand on the "terrace" in front of one house you find that you are standing on the flat roof of another.

Not nomads

NO one knows how long this curious "city" has been inhabited, although experts say that gipsies have probably lived here for more than 500 years.

Like gipsies in many other parts of Spain, these people are not nomads, and they cling to their rabbit warren "city" with curious persistence. Some of them occasionally work in the nearby beetfields, although they live as gipsies do everywhere else—mostly by their wits.

I caught a glimpse of a blacksmith's forge, with a fire blazing in the darkness of one of the larger caves, but otherwise I saw no sign of any occupation or craft in this "town," where half the population lives underground.

But if the Barrio de Santiago is a strange place in the daytime, it is wrapped in an air of mystery at night.

Dark, silent, with hardly a light showing, it lies coiled in its shallow basin of earth like some noxious serpent.

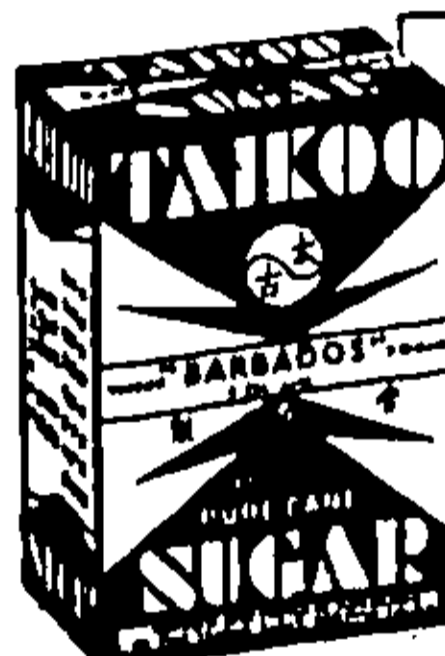
As I stumbled over the uneven ground, unseen figures brushed past me in the darkness, and I heard the low mutter of voices.

It was a place I was glad to leave, even as I realised that there was discretion in the guide-book omission of all



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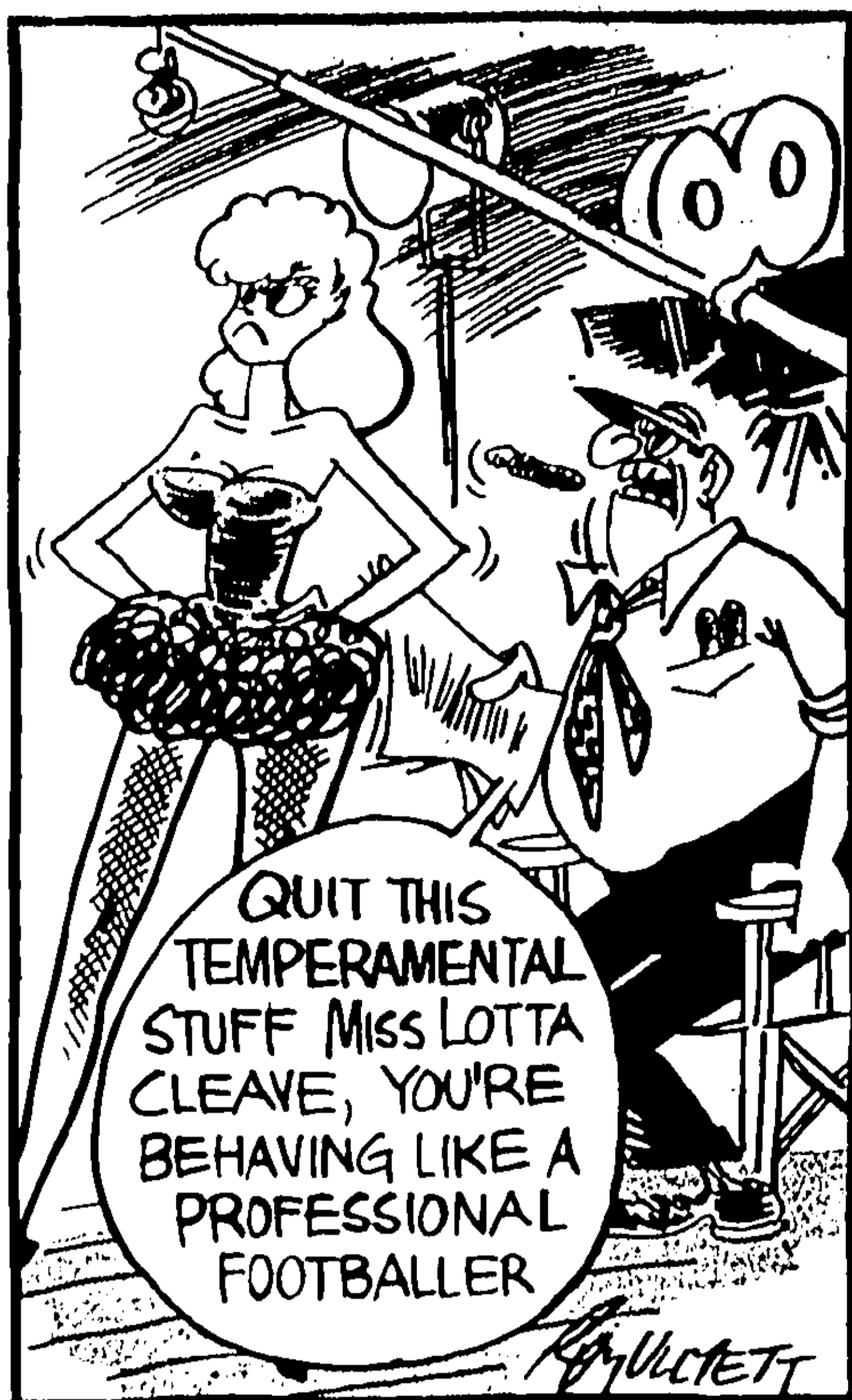
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JAMES PARK SPOTLIGHTS

3-YEAR-OLDS OF 1956

STAR OF INDIA HAS THE RIGHT TEMPERAMENT

What are the odds against anyone buying two foals a few weeks old and unseen to find them top-class two-year-olds? That was the good fortune of Mr H. J. Joel when he bought High Treason and the colt's own sister, Star of India.

They were bred by Captain Peter McCall, of Kilmallock, Co. Limerick. His mother, Mrs. M. McCall, owns the Tally-Ho Stud and is a sister of Captain Cecil Boyd-Rochford.

It seems impossible to keep the Boyd-Rochford family out of the news. The Freemason Lodge trainer topped the list this year, as he did in 1954, and his nephew bred Star of India who is at the head of the Free Handicap.

Private Deals
Mr Joel bought High Treason when he was a few weeks old and Star of India before the mare was weaned. Mr Joel never saw either of the foals before buying. He just took the breeder's word that they were good foals at that age. It should not be thought he might well have obtained a bigger figure if he had retained the filly and sold her as a yearling, by which time she would have been known.

High Treason was beaten once as a two-year-old on a first appearance. His victories included the Nunthorpe Stakes at York, and the best older horses in this championship sprint. He was given 9st. 2lb. in the Free Handicap, 5lb. below The Pic King.

Knee Trouble
After his first season, High Treason had knee trouble and was bought back by Captain McCall for stud purposes. He will stand in Ireland and was promptly booked full for his first season next year.

Star of India did even better than her elder brother. She proved the best two-year-old of the year and the handicapper had no alternative than to give her 9st. 7lb. in the Free Handicap.

The filly ran in five races and the only time she had to be asked a question was at York when she had to be lived up to concede 15lb. to Dorado.

In her later races, her form could be described only as brilliant. She ran them all in the same way and nothing could get her off the bit. The jockey just sat still while going with the pace and, when given a bit of rein, the filly sprang away with the greatest of ease.

There is no doubt in my mind that she was improving all the time. She has the right temperament for racing and does not want to be tearing away like so many sprinters.

She will settle down smoothly without pulling or fighting for her head but, when she is told to race in earnest, the answer is at once forthcoming.

MOTOR SPORTS CLUB DANCE

The Motor Sports Club of Hongkong are holding their annual cocktail party and dinner dance at the Hongkong Yacht Club at 7.30 p.m. tonight. All members are urged to turn up.

IN EUROPE AND NORTH AFRICA.....

US Airmen Learn Soccer To Improve Contacts With Local People

Says PETER JOHNSON

Hundreds of Americans scattered across Europe and North Africa are taking part in a scheme to popularise Association Football which may soon have its effect back home in the United States.

These men, serving in the United States Air Force's European Command, are learning to play the game in order to improve their contacts with the local people.

The command stretches from Britain and Scandinavia in the north to North Africa and Saudi Arabia in the south. Football is the main national game in most of the countries in this area. So the Commander-in-Chief, Lieutenant-General William Turner, of Elizabeth, New Jersey, decided that Americans, instead of teaching the local people to play basketball and American football, should themselves learn to play football.

The programme started about a year ago and today there are teams in about 50 bases, as well as several teams in a base. Chateaubourg, a large base in Western France, for example, has 12 teams. Five of them have much form. All they have is gallantry," one headquarter's officer here said. But a number of teams have had successes in local civilian leagues.

LONG WAY TO GO

Mr Albert G. Bunn, of Bloomfield, New Jersey, is the Command's Director of Athletics. He says that the teams have a long way to go yet if football is to equal basketball in popularity. But the number of men playing football in the command, about 1,000, approaches that of those loyal to American football.

The best base team in the command is at Burtonwood in England, the home land of football. It was from England, too, that the command drew three famous coaches to conduct a football course here recently.

These three, George Ansley, Clinton Sayer and Stanley Wignmore, all staff coaches with Britain's Football Association, trained Americans who now act as coaches on the bases throughout the command.

Ansley also took part in the selection of the United States Armed Forces Olympic Try-out football team, which enters the Eastern Olympic trials at New York recently. Sixty candidates were brought here in October from American bases all over the world.

In 1952, when there was no Armed Forces team helping to set the standard, the United States Olympic team lost 8-0 to Italy at Helsinki. The armed forces football team coach, Air Force Lieutenant Al Aspen, Jr., of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Philadelphia, hopes that three or four of his team will reach the Olympic team.

This time the United States will meet Mexico first, in an

eliminating contest of two games, one in Mexico and one in the United States. Lieutenant Aspen, a former All-American football player when at Pennsylvania State University, thinks the United States will get through this stage to appear in the later rounds, in the Olympics proper.

TRIAL GAMES

In trial games in Europe, the Armed Forces team has beaten several good German amateur sides. It was itself beaten 6-0 by the Finnish national team. Ansley was pleased "I thought it might have been 15," he explained.

Men from Pennsylvania, a leading football state, figure prominently in the team. One of them is 2nd Lieutenant Jack Dunn, aged 24, of North Lee Street, Philadelphia, who is serving at Brooklyn Army Terminal. Lieutenant Dunn, one of two members of the team who played in the last Olympics, won his prowess at Temple University, Philadelphia. He plays inside-left.

Another Pennsylvania, Lieutenant Ron Coder, a 27-year-old Air Force pilot, is the team's extremely agile goalkeeper. When the West German football star, Fritz Walter, who has also helped in American football programme, saw Coder play, he told him that he would find a billet in any of the country's professional leagues. Ansley compared his style with that of Frank Swift, a famous British

KMB TO PLAY MACAO POLICE

Macao, Dec. 14.

The Kowloon Motor Bus soccer contingent will arrive in Macao from Hongkong for a game against the local Police Force football team on Sunday. The game will be played at the Campo Desportivo ground.

—France-Press.

Australians Prove Compulsory PT Is Good For Cricket

Says LINDSAY HASSETT

The Australian Board of Control may pay greater attention to the question of physical fitness of the players selected for the coming tour of England.

This season Victoria instituted a course of physical training for its State squad. For a month before the first match a leading Melbourne PT instructor concentrated on the players, and there was definite improvement in their physical condition.

Board members argue that any expense involved in providing a physical course is infinitely small compared with the long list of medical bills they have paid because of injuries caused by lack of sufficient preparation.

Neil Harvey appears to flourish on the new scheme. He not only looks remarkably fit, but he is batting with even more brilliance than ever. I think it would be safe in anticipating that 1956 will prove the most successful year to date in his already outstanding career.

His selection as vice-captain of Victoria opens the definite possibility of his captaining Australia in future years. His personality and cricket knowledge are keeping pace with the improvement in his batsmanship. He would make an efficient leader if the responsibility came his way.

IN THE BALANCE

Bill Johnston's cricket future is in the balance. He has made a reasonable recovery from his knee operation, but the Victorian selectors did not consider his form or fitness good enough to include him in the first Sheffield Shield team.

Johnston is convinced that unless he can regain the body action he lost because of his knee injury at East Molesey in 1953, he is unlikely to recapture his ability to spin the ball from the leg. He is making a determined effort to find form.

He has spent several pre-breakfast sessions bowling to me at a private net, concentrating largely on regaining the "old" side-on action which enabled

him really to spin the ball. His return to form would have a tremendous effect on the strength of the Australian team.

The match-winning talents of Keith Miller are still very much in evidence. He started the season with a brilliant century and followed this performance by ripping the South Australian team apart with the staggering bowling feat of seven wickets for 12 runs.

The all-round strength of the NSW team has set a pose for their State selectors. The team for the Southern tour, which includes matches against West Australia, South Australia and Victoria, has just been released. Both de Courcy and Watson have been omitted.

TREATED HARSHLY
As more than half of the first-class season in Australia will be over before these players even have a chance to get back into their State team, their omission may sound the death knell to their hopes for the English tour.

Watson, on his first international tour of the West Indies, scored 383 runs at an average of 43. He has been treated over-harshly.

Ian Craig has been given another chance. He has unusual ability, and, if his temperament can stand the test of the public, he could be a regular member of Australia's first team for many years to come.

NEW OPENERS
The retirement of Arthur Morris is a definite blow to Australia's hopes of regaining the Ashes. It seems that, with



EDITED BY SAM LEITCH & TERENCE ELLIOTT

Success signing of Eddie Firmani by the Italian club Sampdoria for £35,000 has given the Italians ideas—about another Charlton player.

He is lean, dark-haired Peter Firmani, 19-year-old younger brother of Eddie. More than one Italian club thinks right-winger Peter would be a sound investment. So do some top-line First Division clubs.

Norwich right-half Sammy Chung broke his leg three weeks ago. The Norwich directors have decided to pay Sammy top wages (£15) until the end of the season because "he is a grand player and clubman."

Wolves centre-forward Roy Swinbourne has been admitted to a nursing home. It is "mainly for observation," says manager Stan Cullis.

But I understand Wolves are worried about Swinbourne's knee injury. He fell "as if he had been shot," says an observer of the League match at Preston. That was two minutes from time. The injury is mysterious.

Another pressing Wolves problem: Is it time to bring in some of the brilliant Molineux youngsters? The club is now 13th in the First Division. The old gold is rusty these days.

SCOTTISH SCOUT

At this rate Leicester City will soon have the biggest Scottish "colony" in English League football. Recently chief Scottish scout Walter McLean signed stocky Jimmy Moran, a 21-year-old right-half with the crack Scottish junior side, Wilsnaw Juniors.

That makes five Scottish signings by manager Dave Halliday since he took over in the close season.

The office doorway at St James's Park, headquarters of Newcastle United, was darkened by the massive bulk of John Nesbitt, a 21-year-old. He is 6ft. 2½ins. in height and weighs 13½ stone.

Angry supporter? Oh, no!

"Wonder if you'd like to sign me," said a voice from a great height.

"I'm a footballer," John had just been demobbed. He had played Army football at centre-half, had previously been an amateur with South Shields. Home town... Washington (Co. Durham).

A try-out in the third team confirmed he was worth a chance. But on the point of signing, Nesbitt mentioned he had promised to go for a trial to Bristol City. He had come to Newcastle first because his parents didn't want him to take a job so far from home.

Director Stan Seymour insisted that Nesbitt should keep this promise. But he was soon back from Bristol. On the phone Bristol City chief Pat Beasley said: "I think the lad should not go against his parents' wishes." So Newcastle signed themselves a giant.

Twelve brave footballing men of Oldham will stand on a platform, "prepared to be shot at," if it will help the cause of Oldham Athletic. They are the eleven directors and players-manager George Hardwick. They are calling a public meeting to clear up misunderstandings between club and spectators and end a boycott.

Chairman Mr Stanley Cheetham has received six anonymous letters aiming criticism at him. He wants to meet the writers face to face. And he says: "This meeting should create a better atmosphere between club and public. There is complete lack of confidence and interest in Athletic."

PLEASANT SURPRISE

Good show, Blackpool! Why the applause? Because of the

pleasant surprise awaiting Stan Mortensen (now with Hull City) and Harry Johnston (now Reading manager), at a social get-together last week. They were handed cheques representing accrued share of benefit.

Why the surprise? Because both had already received full benefit cheques to the end of last season. Blackpool could have "forgotten" subsequent service before they left this season.

No club is under obligation to pay benefit—certainly not for such an additional short term of service.

But Blackpool applied to the League and were granted permission to pay out the surprise packets.

Who wants Allan Brown, Blackpool's Scottish international inside-forward with the cannonball shot? Lots of clubs, we imagine. Then why don't they talk business?

Because it seems Allan, still officially for transfer, has settled down again. He's one of the kingpins in Blackpool's success march—and he's saying nothing at all. Right? Could be the best decision you ever made, Allan. Here's wishing you more and more goals...for Blackpool.

—(London Express Service).

(COPYRIGHT)

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB THIRD RACE MEETING

Saturday, 10th & Sunday, 17th December, 1955.

(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 16 RACES.

The First Race will be run at 1.30 p.m. and the First Race run at 2.00 p.m. on both days.

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 11.45 a.m. on both days.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED.

All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

Admission Batches at \$10.00 each per day are obtainable through the Secretary or his written personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.

Tickets will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Box (Tel. 72811).

NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years, Western Standard.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission will be \$3.00 each per day payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of \$3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

MEALS and REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.

SERVANTS

Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Members' Enclosure.

CASH SWEEPS

Through Cash Sweep Tickets at \$10.00 each for the second day may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), and 5, D'Aguiar Street during normal office hours and until 11.00 a.m. on the day of the Race Meeting.

Particular numbers within the series 1 to 4,000 may be reserved for use consecutively only and the right is reserved by the Stewards to cancel any reservation for Through Tickets for a particular Meeting if it is found that sales may not reach the number reserved in the series 1 to 4,000.

In the case of two-day Race Meetings, Through Tickets may be purchased for each day of the Meeting provided that the second day is on a date not less than five days after the first day. In all other cases Through Tickets will only be sold for the whole Meeting.

Tickets reserved and available but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 9th December, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future Meetings.

Tickets over 4,000 will also be issued consecutively but particular numbers cannot be reserved as Through Tickets.

The reservation of any particular number does not confer on the registered holder any rights whatsoever unless the tickets bearing the appropriate number is issued to and can be produced by the holder.

The Stewards reserve the right to refuse any subscription also the right to remove any name from subscription lists without stating reasons for their action.

Cash Sweep Tickets on the last race of the Meeting at \$2.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building (Chater Road), 5, D'Aguiar Street and 382, Nathan Road during normal office hours and until 11.00 a.m. on both days of the Meeting.

SPECIAL CASH SWEEP

Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup scheduled to be run on 4th February 1956, at \$2.00 each, may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices.

TOTALISATOR

Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after "all clear" signal has been exhibited.

ALL WINNING TICKETS AND TICKETS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE COURSE ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.

PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.

Bookmakers, Tipsters, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

By Order of the Stewards, A. E. ARNOLD, Secretary.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

4th Race Meeting 1955/56

2nd Day — 2nd January, 1956

Ponies entered in their Class on 18th December and re-classified on 17th December, will have their entries transferred to their new classification. Where races are provided for more than one distance in any one Class, Owners of re-classified ponies will be required to declare their acceptance for one race only by Noon on Monday, 19th December and have the option of withdrawing the entry in the new Class.

By Order of the Stewards, A. E. ARNOLD, Secretary.

WORLD COTTON MARKETS

**LONDON META
PRICES**

London, Dec. 14.

The tin market was this afternoon. Other markets were steady but Prices closed today in per long ton as follows:

Tin spot	.....	532
3-month	.....	517
Copper spot	.....	402
3-month	.....	398
Lead 1st half	Dec.	114 1/2
Zinc 1st half	Dec.	67 1/2
	Mar.	26

—United Press

Good News Enlivens London Market

[illegible]

African Territory Turns Into Boom Land

RAILWAY DEMANDED FOR SWAZILAND DEVELOPMENT

**SILVER PRICE
UP AGAIN.**

New York, Dec. 14.
Handay & Harman,
bullion dealers, today
raised the price of silver
55D-cent to 50 1/2 cents a

Petaling Tin Ltd.	£1.85
Raffles Hotel	£2.35 sd
Singapore Cold Storage	£1.60
South British Insurance Co.	
Ltd.	£27.50
Straths Trading	£25.00

United Engineers Ord. . .	\$10.10
Wearne Bros.	\$2.80
—China Mail Special:	

Exchange Rates

17%	Business was done in the local	tion is financing a dam or weir	New York Sugar
24%	unofficial exchange market this	across the Komati River in	Market
30%	morning at the following rates:	the northeastern corner of	
31%	U.S. dollar (per \$1).....	Swaziland to supply a 40-mile	World New York, Dec.
32%	sterling notes (per £1).....	cane being built to irrigate	World No. 2 sugar fu
33%	Australian notes (per £1).....	some 30,000 acres, of a food	clouded today 2 to 3 points h
34%	Indonesian dollar (per 100).....	covers 10,000 acres of un-	with sales of 22 contracts.
35%	Singapore (Straits).....	developed bush country.	Domestic No. 6 sugar au
36%			
37%			
38%			
39%			
40%			
41%			
42%			
43%			
44%			
45%			
46%			
47%			
48%			
49%			
50%			

News Enlivens Market

Part of the scheme embraces the purchase of some 6,000 cattle. Nearly 2,000 natives are occupied in jobs under the scheme. Meanwhile the foreign companies are being organized, and 50,000 natives are being trained in agriculture, stock raising, and other commercial crafts.

**HONGKONG
STOCK
EXCHANGE**

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SILVER PRICE UP AGAIN

Spot	1
Dec.	1
Mar.	1
May	1
July	1
Sept.	1

d's	Rye	1
on	Dec.	1
	Mar.	
	Oats	
	Dec.	
ar	Mar.	

	Soybeans, No. 2, yellow
Spot	.....
Jan.	.....
Mar.	.....
May	.....
July	.....
Sept.	.....
	Barley,
	spot

33 200 lb. sack —United

WINNIPEG PRICE

Winnipeg, Dec.

Prices of grain futures
today in Canadian co
bushel as follows:

Dec.	Flaxseed
May	Dec.
July	May
	July
	Wheat No. 3, northern
	cents; No. 5, 115 cents,
	firm.

Late Selling Hits New York Stocks

1-125	Crane Co.	4894
	Crown Zellerbach	1874
	Cuban Amer. Sugar	2014
1-14	Curtis Wright	4894
1-136	Diamond Alkali	5694
	Dow Chemicals	2254
	Dupont de Nemours	824

El Paso National Gas	21%	on b
Eric Railroad	24%	
Family Finance Corp.	24%	
General Electric	83	
General Foods	83	
General Motors	46%	
Gen. Pub. Util.	37%	
Gillette Safety Razor	40%	
	38%	

Goodrich (D. F.) Co.	78
Goodyear Tire	63 1/2
Hayden Chemicals	19 1/2
Hormatske Mining Co.	25
Ingersoll-Rand	35
Inland Steel Co.	6 1/2
Int'l Business Machines	408
Int'l Harvester	81
International Nickel	81
International Paper	111 1/2
Int'l Tel. & Tel.	83 1/2

13.	Kanab C. Power & Light Co.	115
14.	Kamco	684
15.	Liggett Meyers Tob. Co.	84
16.	Lookhead Aircraft	84
17.	Loches Incorp.	719
18.	Louisville Cement	89
19.	Louisville & Nashville R.	89
20.	Loveland & Sons	439
21.	Mach Iron Corp.	102
22.	Minnesota Mining	57
23.	Mission Development	57

2014	Pacific Gas & Elec	\$115
2016	Western Petroleum Oil	\$174
	Pass American Airways	\$174
2019	Paramount Pictures	\$402
2018	Parsons Corp.	\$275
	Perkin Elmer Inc.	\$275
1887	Pfizer Inc.	\$274
United	Phillips Petroleum Co.	\$274
	Pharmacia Corporation	\$274
	Pittsburgh Plate Glass	\$114

WORLD RUBBER MARKETS

the exception of hand packs
by passengers themselves
BAGGAGE, must pass through
port Co's Godown for load

engers should embark between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. on Friday, 1 October, 1955.

BLANKS

long friends with you
ings and name printed
did selection of di
as Blanks depictir
de scenes to suit a

Department Kowloon

SHANKS & CO., LTD.
SANITARY EQUIPMENT.

ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO., LTD.
R.M. & Shanghai Bank Bldg. Tel. 27789

CHINA MAIL

Page 10

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1955.

SHEAFFER'S
"SNORKEL" PEN
ADMIRAL

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Happy Birthday, Dear Mother

THE engagement-ring lay in that place which busy women seem to regard as a kind of annex to their jewel-case or safe-deposit box. It lay on a scullery shelf.

Michael, working with other builder's men on a job in the flat where the scullery was, caught sight of the sparkling ring quite early in the day. Seeing it, he craved it, and began to make plans for stealing it.

MIDNIGHT
When no one was looking, Michael, a sturdy 18-year-old, took the ring, and thrust it in a cranny in the woodwork of an old wheelbarrow and his mules were using. When work ended for the day, Michael made no attempt to take the ring from his hiding-place.

But at midnight he returned to the house where he had been working, groped his way to the yard where the barrow had been left, and took the ring. Next day he gave it to his mother as a birthday present.

The ring's owner quickly discovered and reported her loss. The men who had worked in the flat were questioned.

THE MISSING DIAMOND
When Michael came to work he admitted the theft. At Bow Street next morning, before the chief magistrate, Sir Laurence Dunne, he pleaded guilty to stealing the ring, which was valued at £15.

The police told their story, and added: "The ring has been recovered, but one of its diamonds is missing—it was probably knocked out of its setting by the rubble in the wheelbarrow."

"Anything known?" the chief magistrate asked.
"One finding of guilt for larceny as a juvenile," said the detective in charge of the case.

WEAKNESS
He went on to sketch in details of Michael's short life.

"He's one of four children," he said, "and lives at home with them and his mother."

"The father was killed in a railway accident some months ago, and I believe this boy has been very good in the way he has helped his mother. She is here, sir, and would like to speak to you."

Michael's mother came into the witness-box, a forthright Irishwoman, upon whom hand work and worry had left their mark.

"I must tell you, sir," she said, "that this boy does take little things at home, it's a sort

of weakness, sir. But I must say to his credit that every other way he's a very good boy."

HE'S WONDERFUL
"He helps you, does he?" "Oh, he's a wonderful help, sir."

"You think you can stop him doing this sort of thing?" "Yes, I do, sir," Michael's mother answered, "and if you could put him on probation or something, to help."

Michael had nothing to say. "Perhaps it's just as well," said Sir Laurence, "you'd better listen to me. If there's any more of this sort of thing you'll be in grave danger of going to Borstal—and then you'd not be in a position for a long time to help your mother, which, I gather, to your credit, you try to do."

"I shall put you on probation for two years," said Sir Laurence, "and you must pay £5, at £1 a week, as compensation for the damage you did to the ring. Now go away and don't let me ever see you again."

"No, sir," said Michael, and presently he left Bow Street, taking his mother's arm as they went. It was clear that having him there to take home was a better birthday present to his mother than any ring that money could buy.

RAGPICKERS' Barracks Razed
A fire today destroyed about 70 barracks in the Ueno Park 'ragpickers' village' in Tokyo.

Police said about 400 ragpickers and members of their families were made homeless.

Police said 1,000 ragpickers were living in the park—China Mail Special.

Winter Bursts In
(Continued from Page 1)

The 6,102-ton British motorship Victoria City sank in the North Sea after it collided with the Italian ship Valentia in a dense fog. The 60 British crewmen were saved by a Polish vessel.

A vicious gale ran the 300-ton Scottish coaster, St Ronald, aground off the Irish coast and heavy seas pounded it mercilessly. The 10-man crew were hauled ashore by lifeline when the ship began breaking up—United Press.

Tug Goes To Ship's Rescue

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dec. 14.
A Halifax-based salvage tug, Foundation Frances, was expected today to complete a 600-mile dash through stormy Atlantic seas to put a towline aboard the crippled British freighter Lord Church.

The tug set out from Halifax after the 8,200-ton cargo ship radioed that her steering gear and main engines had been knocked out in the raging storm which swept the area.

Two of the freighter's crew were injured when mountainous seas wrecked the crew's accommodation, smashed two lifeboats, swept away part of the navigation bridge and flooded the engine room.

Earlier today, Coast guard planes from the United States based at Argentia located the freighter yawing in heavy seas about 650 miles southeast of here. The planes directed the tug to the scene.

LEG BROKEN
The Lord Church was bound for England from Norfolk, Virginia, when the storm struck.

The ship's master, identified only as Captain Stephenson, radioed his agents here that one deckhand had a broken leg and the fourth engineer had been severely burned at the height of the storm.

The captain's message said heavy seas had poured into the engine room, sinking the ship's generators and knocking out the electrical system.

Late this evening, the Foundation Maritime Company's officials said they had no word yet on whether the tug had succeeded in taking the crippled freighter in tow.—United Press.

Briton Among Japanese Repatriates
Tokyo, Dec. 15.

A British citizen was today reported aboard a Japanese ship carrying repatriates from Communist China to Japan.

The 7,077-ton Koan Maru is due at the port of Muzuru on the west coast on Sunday with about 280 Japanese and others in the latest of a series of repatriations arranged through the Red Cross.

No name or other details of the Briton were at this stage available.

Japanese immigration authorities were today considering what processes to use in the unexpected development.

Some 43 non-Japanese were reported on their way here, including Koreans and Filipinos.

They are likely to be held at first as illegal entrants until their status can be decided.—Reuter.

The Millionth Visitor
London, Dec. 15.

Britain welcomed its millionth overseas visitor of the year on Tuesday.

To mark the occasion, four tourists, Mr and Mrs David S. Hooper of Washington, United States, Miss Astrid Kjerulf of Oslo, Norway and Mr C. C. M. Street of Johannesburg, South Africa, arrived in Britain to find themselves the guests of the President of the British Tourist Association, Sir Arthur Morse.

Sir Arthur, who was formerly the Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, said that next year Britain hoped to increase the number of foreign visitors by 10 per cent.—France-Press.

MAY REQUEST SANCTIONS
Washington, Dec. 14.

The Syria Ambassador, Fadi Zedine, said today that Syria was considering the possibility of asking the United Nations to invoke sanctions against Israel.—United Press.

DEATH SENTENCE FOR PLOTTERS
Seoul, Dec. 16.

A military court today announced death sentences on two men charged with plotting to assassinate President Syngman Rhee.

They were among nine persons allegedly implicated in a plot which they were to have attempted in early October.

The court sentenced one other man to six years' imprisonment and acquitted one.

The remaining accused are to be tried in a civil court.—Reuter.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Every Christmas my girl says 'you shouldn't have spent that much on me!' This year I think I'll just send her a card and see what happens!"

Chinese Reds Claim Air Successes

Paris, Dec. 14.

A total of six United States-made F-84 fighters of the National Chinese Air Force were shot down or damaged over the Fukien coast by Communist Air Force aircraft and coastal anti-aircraft units today and yesterday, the New China News Agency reported tonight.

The agency said that four Nationalist fighters intruded over Santiao this morning and two of them were damaged by anti-aircraft fire.

Yesterday, eight Nationalist fighters in two waves intruded over Santiao, Hwangchi and Tuncheng and bombed and strafed the Communist positions. They were intercepted by planes of the People's Liberation Army Air Force and anti-aircraft guns.

One intruding plane was shot down and three others damaged. The plane shot down fell into the waters to the east of Shangpaichai, the agency said.—France-Press.

Airline Strike Settled
Washington, Dec. 14.

A seven-week strike of United Airlines flight engineers was settled here late today.

A spokesman for United said the settlement was reached and a new contract signed between the airline and the flight engineers International Association. Officials of the merged AFL-CIO were at the settlement meeting.

The airline agreed to return all striking engineers to the payroll on or before December 19 "without discrimination or disciplinary action."

No issue in the strike was wages but job security. The company said that, under the new contract, it retained the right to employ pilot-qualified engineers and to establish crew requirements for future planes.

At the same time it agreed to extend security to engineers now lacking pilot qualifications by offering them pilot training. If they do not wish it, they will be kept on as engineers.—United Press.

Burmese Minister Passes Through
The Burmese Minister for Finance and Revenue, Mr U Tin, flew in from Rangoon by TAA this morning.

He was en route to Tokyo to discuss sales of Burmese rice with the Japanese Government.

Accompanied by the Trade Promotion Officer, Mr Maung Ming Chay, Mr U Tin spent an hour at Tai Tak before flying on to Tokyo.

They were met here by the Burmese Consul-General in Hongkong, Mr C. P. Tan.

The Minister said that in the last 12 months 230,000 tons of rice were sold to the Japanese Government, payment being made in sterling. He said that payment for rice shipped as a result of his negotiations in Tokyo would probably also be in cash rather than on a barter basis.

Border Incident
Tel-Aviv, Dec. 14.

A heavy exchange of fire between Egyptian outposts and an Israeli patrol took place on the Gaza strip armistice line near the Israeli settlement of Metfalin this morning, an Israeli spokesman announced here.

The spokesman said the Egyptians opened fire with machineguns and rifles and the Israeli patrol then returned the fire. There were no casualties on the Israeli side, the spokesman added.—France-Press.

Illegal Possession Of Medicine

Pleading guilty to illegal possession of drugs Lung Tak-kwong, broker, was fined a total of \$1,150 or three months' imprisonment by Mr T. Creedon at Kowloon this morning.

Lung was charged with being in possession of two bottles of dihydrostreptomycin without a licence and possession of 11 bottles of whooping cough vaccine (four ampoules of 1 cc each) and 40 boxes of diphtheria antitoxin (8,000 units of 2.5 cc each) reasonably suspected of having been stolen or unlawfully obtained.

The prosecution said the medicine was the property of the Kowloon Hospital.

DSJ J. D. MacMahon, of the Anti-Corruption Branch, stated that on November 17 between 8 and 10 p.m. he and a party of police executed a search warrant at the home of the defendant at 11 First Street, ground floor, Sai Tau Village, Kowloon City.

As a result of the search, Insp. MacMahon said, 11 boxes of whooping cough and 40 boxes of diphtheria antitoxin were found in the premises. He added that defendant returned home during the search and admitted ownership of the medicine.

MAXIMUM SENTENCE
Answering an enquiry from the Chief Justice, Mr W. S. Collier, Crown Counsel, said that the penalty prescribed was 10 years and a sentence of five years was the maximum which a District Court could impose.

Refusing the appeal, the Chief Justice said that the Court had carefully considered Counsel's submission in the matter and the reasons given by the District Court Judge in passing sentence and their Lordships did not see any occasion to differ from those reasons and were not satisfied that this was a case for the reduction of the sentence.

The Full Court also rejected the appeal by Chan Shu-wah who was sentenced to three years and 12 strokes of the cane for larceny from the person.

Appellant said he had an old mother who depended on him for support.

Asked what he had to say about his previous convictions, appellant said that after the first prison he worked for a year. As he was in poor circumstances he was compelled to commit the crime.

The Chief Justice said that having regard to the nature of the offence in the case and to the previous convictions which appellant had admitted in the District Court, their Lordships did not think that they should reduce the sentence.

TALK ON HK'S INCOME
The Civic Association wishes to remind Association members and their friends that a talk on "The National Income of Hongkong" will be given by Mr Edward F. Exon, of the British Council Library, Gloucester Building, today at 8.30 p.m.

Mr Exon is co-author with Mr Ronald A. Ma of the "National Income of Hongkong 1947-1950" published this year by the Hongkong University Press. He is also a member of the Association's Economic Advisory Committee.

Members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

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The spokesman said the Egyptians opened fire with machineguns and rifles and the Israeli patrol then returned the fire. There were no casualties on the Israeli side, the spokesman added.—France-Press.

Possessor Of Dangerous Drugs Loses Appeal

An appeal against sentence brought by Lam Yam-sing, alias Lam Kam-sing, who was sentenced to three years on two charges of possession of dangerous drugs, was refused by the Full Court, comprising the Chief Justice, Mr Justice M. J. P. Hogan and the Puisne Judge, Mr Justice J. R. Gregg, this morning.

Lam was represented by Mr Patrick Yu, instructed by Mr K. Y. Yung of Messrs Zimmer and Company.

Mr Yu said that this was an appeal against sentence passed on the appellant in the District Court on two separate charges of possession of dangerous drugs. Counsel said that it would be seen from the record that in point of fact the subject matter of the two charges was found on the premises of which appellant was a tenant.

Counsel said that he had read through the record of the case and had studied the reasons given by the learned Judge in passing sentence and he could not conscientiously argue that it was either unreasonable or manifestly excessive. He was however instructed to draw the Court's attention to one or two aspects of the matter which he would like their Lordships to consider.

FIRST OFFENCE
Counsel stressed the fact that, although it was mentioned in the reasons given by the learned Judge, this was the first offence of the appellant and as far as he understood the law, usually a lot of leeway was given for first offenders.

Counsel also stressed the small amount of opium in the case which was about 17 taels, which reduced to what Counsel said smokable opium would be less than one pound. Mr Yu said he was instructed that this was a small amount. This fact also, he added, had been taken into consideration by the learned Judge.

If that was a criterion Counsel said he would draw the Court's attention to the fact that in point of fact in other cases recently both in the Court of Appeals and the District Court, similar sentences of three years had been passed on persons possessing much larger quantities and who had previous convictions. In the present case the amount was small and the appellant had no previous conviction.

Counsel said he had drawn the attention of the Court to these matters so that their Lordships might, if they saw fit, reduce the sentence.

CROSS-EXAMINED
Police informer, Ho Wai, who introduced a detective to the accused as a "buyer" of forged notes, was cross-examined this morning.

He had testified yesterday of various discussions he had with the first, second and fourth accused about the transaction.

Mr Cheung reserved his cross-examination on behalf of the first accused.

The second accused, Chan, claimed that Ho Wai was telling lies. He maintained that he was a more acquaintance of Ho's, a man living in the same premises, and would not discuss such matters with him.

Radio Hongkong
H.K.T. 6.30 p.m. Signal and Programme Summary: 6.30, Stock Market Report; 6.45, News; 7.00, Sports; 7.15, Music; 7.30, News; 7.45, Music; 8.00, News; 8.15, Music; 8.30, News; 8.45, Music; 9.00, News; 9.15, Music; 9.30, News; 9.45, Music; 10.00, News; 10.15, Music; 10.30, News; 10.45, Music; 11.00, News; 11.15, Music; 11.30, News; 11.45, Music; 12.00, News; 12.15, Music; 12.30, News; 12.45, Music; 1.00, News; 1.15, Music; 1.30, News; 1.45, Music; 2.00, News; 2.15, Music; 2.30, News; 2.45, Music; 3.00, News; 3.15, Music; 3.30, News; 3.45, Music; 4.00, News; 4.15, Music; 4.30, News; 4.45, Music; 5.00, News; 5.15, Music; 5.30, News; 5.45, Music; 6.00, News; 6.15, Music; 6.30, News; 6.45, Music; 7.00, News; 7.15, Music; 7.30, News; 7.45, Music; 8.00, News; 8.15, Music; 8.30, News; 8.45, Music; 9.00, News; 9.15, Music; 9.30, News; 9.45, Music; 10.00, News; 10.15, Music; 10.30, News; 10.45, Music; 11.00, News; 11.15, Music; 11.30, News; 11.45, Music; 12.00, News; 12.15, Music; 12.30, News; 12.45, Music; 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